

COA Meeting Notes

May 13, 2015

Kevin called the meeting to order at 10:35 am. Members present: Kevin Rudden, Earl Pearlman, Carol Kotros, Ann Vandersluis and Director, Amy Wilson-Kent. Mary Ann Hopkins was absent. Bob Carlson arrived at 10:50 am. Friends members present: Nancy Jenkins, Dick Skinner and President, Sue Carlson.

After review of the secretary's notes, Earl made a motion to approve the notes with the correction to paragraph two, previously discussed. Carol seconded. All approved. The Treasurer and Director's reports were unanimously approved.

Sue Carlson presented the Friends' report. They are currently working on the June 6 Progressive yard sale and the program book ads. Upcoming events: May 27, lunch bunch Hopedale Country Club; June 16, Dairy Queen fundraiser 5-8-pm; June 24, lunch bunch Westboro C.C.; July 22, picnic town beach; August 26, lunch bunch Blissful Meadows; October 4-8, Philly, NYC, Atlantic City trip scheduled. Finally, they are looking at a trip to the Grand Canyon in May 2016. There will be an information night May 26, 2015. The Friends have chosen two scholarship recipients who have not yet been notified.

Old Business

Food Pantry Update—participants are increasing, 33 this month with 8 home deliveries. Bob suggested that we publish in The Crier food items we especially are in need of each month. We could feature one or two items. Board members agreed we should try this.

Staff/Budget update—Kevin reported the 10 additional Outreach hours were approved at the ATM.

Volunteer Appreciation Update—Amy reported that it went very well. The entertainment was well received. Meal prepared by Karen Wheet was delicious and plentiful. Kevin suggested that next year we could prepare a list of all volunteers and in what capacity they volunteer to pass out to attendees.

Senior Tax Abatement Program—Fin Com has allotted \$7500 in the town Overlay Account for Senior Tax Abatement program. Kevin asked now that we know it is funded, do we want to take over the program at the senior center as proposed to us by the town administrator. General consensus was to take it over on a trial basis for one year with reservations about the effect on Amy's work load. We would expect an abatement worker to offset the hours Amy would spend managing the program.

Senior of the Year—we are currently advertising for applications but no nominees yet.

New Business

Resignation—Amy received Jim Negri’s letter of resignation. We all signed a thank you card for his years of service. Amy presented us with an application for Candidate for Council on Aging from Peg Nogueira. The board agreed to recommend her to the BOS for approval.

COA Cookout—scheduled for Thursday, July 16. Kevin suggested we ask Republic Trash Services for sponsorship, since they have made offers in the past. He has a contact’s card and will call him.

Roof Snow Removal Expense—we received a bill for \$750 for roof snow removal following this winter’s numerous snow storms. Amy will refer this to the fire department for consideration under FEMUR’s 75% reimbursement for emergency snow removal.

Van Repairs--\$1154 has been sitting in the town’s insurance account from 3 years ago when the van was hit. Town Accountant has approved using this for current van repairs incurred this winter.

Capitol Planning—Kevin requested that if we have any ideas to put on our capitol planning wish list, to bring them to the June meeting.

Open Forum

Amy said there is a Boy Scout looking for an Eagle Scout Project. Suggestions were an awning over the bocce court or a shed to store durable medical equipment.

Dick Skinner presented a quote for \$625 to reseal the gazebo. The board has no objection nor any money to fund this. Dick asked about the seniors in town, 1300 total, many who do not use the senior center. He suggested a senior needs survey. Amy told him we did this last year and she would be happy to show him the survey form and results. Also, the Outreach worker contacts seniors by phone to find out their needs. Thirdly, Dick said a retractable awning was donated to the center. He requested our approval to install it on the back deck. Board approved as long as it doesn’t interfere with the exit door or the grilling area.

Meeting adjourned at 12:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Vandersluis

Secretary